

There are **6 million** children aged 0-5 years in South Africa

4 million of them receive the Child Support Grant. These children need subsidised early learning the most.

Only 1.5 million of the children on Child Support Grants are accessing ECD. Only **25%** of the need is met.



Address Douglas Murray House, 1 Wodin Road, Claremont, Cape Town, 7700

Tel +27 (21) 670 9840

Web <http://ilifalabantwana.co.za/>

f ilifa.sa **t** @IlifaLabantwana



Ilifa Labantwana works to secure an **equal start** for all children living in South Africa, through universal access to quality early childhood development.

An **equal start** for all children





2017-2021 GOAL

Ilifa's goal is to **enable an additional 1 million children, aged 0-5 years, in South Africa, to access the Early Learning Subsidy** so they can attend a quality early learning programme.

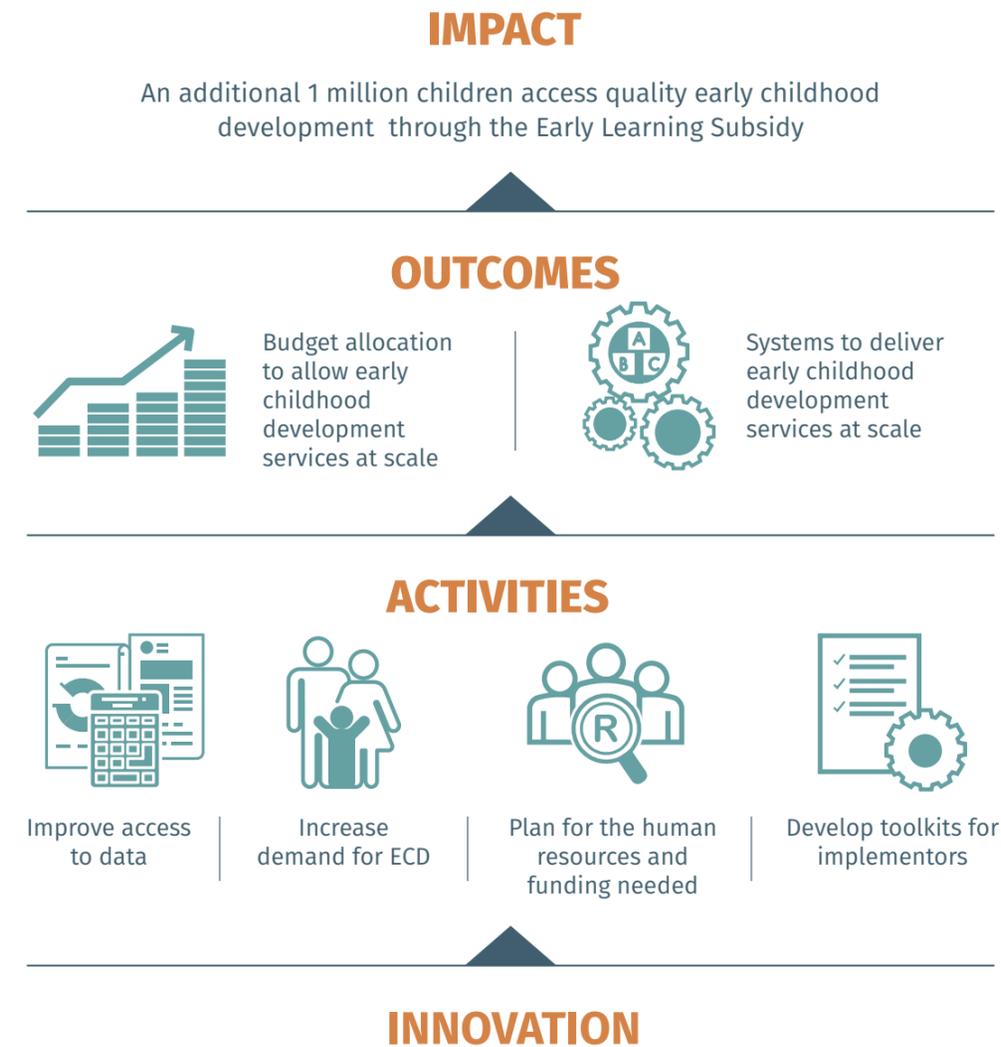
Children should access the subsidy if they are attending an ECD centre or if they are accessing ECD through a non-centre based programme.



What is the Early Learning Subsidy?

Currently, the Department of Social Development offers the Early Learning Subsidy only to registered ECD centres meeting norms and standards. It is paid per qualifying child, based on a means test which takes into account caregivers' household income, and is available for children aged zero to five years.

Our theory of change



Our objectives and expected outcomes for 2017 - 2021

OBJECTIVES	OUTCOMES
Improve access to and use of data on ECD for service monitoring and planning	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Data is used to track the coverage and impact of ECD programmes to improve access and quality of services through a nationally implemented ECD Management Information System. More accurate and accessible data will mean that more money is allocated to ECD in the future, because we understand where the need is greatest and we know where investments are achieving their goals.
Build the finance, administrative, regulatory and human resource systems to support ECD service delivery at scale	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Subsidised ECD services rely on well-functioning systems. These include the systems that register ECD centres and programmes, administer subsidies, and manage implementation of norms & standards for ECD. Importantly, systems for training and retaining high-quality human resources for all the necessary ECD programmes are in place. By supporting the efficiency of these systems, we expect existing funding to reach more children with better services. We also expect an increase in trained ECD practitioners.
Promote and share toolkits to implement quality age-appropriate ECD programmes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Planners and funders can review a suite of tested, quality programmes covering the entire ECD age-spectrum; they can select the most appropriate programme, and they can implement it using an open-source toolkit.
Increase demand for and awareness of the importance of ECD	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> All people in South Africa, especially caregivers, will understand the importance of early learning and the first 1000 days. Through public campaigns, and work in communities and clinics, caregivers will be supported to take action in the home and in their communities so that children receive better quality care and education.
Support innovative solutions and approaches to ECD challenges	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> New approaches and solutions to improving ECD systems and delivery mechanisms are tried, tested and scaled. These include: new ways to deliver and measure quality programmes, building a skilled workforce to implement quality programmes, innovative financing, and expanding the diversity of skills and stakeholders addressing ECD challenges.